

Reagan's director of the National Security Agency, outlined a much more sensible approach in a recent article titled "Exit From Iraq Should Be Through Iran." General Odom wrote: "Increasingly bogged down in the sands of Iraq, the US thrashes about looking for an honorable exit. Restoring cooperation between Washington and Tehran is the single most important step that could be taken to rescue the U.S. from its predicament in Iraq." General Odom makes good sense. We need to engage the rest of the world, including Iran and Syria, through diplomacy, trade, and travel rather than pass threatening legislation like this that paves the way to war. We have seen the limitations of force as a tool of U.S. foreign policy. It is time to try a more traditional and conservative approach. I urge a "no" vote on this resolution.

HONORING BLUEFIELD ORIOLES
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Bluefield Orioles, which, for a half a century has brought America's pastime to southern West Virginia. With the crack of the bats this week, the "Baby Birds" will mark the beginning of their 50th consecutive year as a Baltimore minor league affiliate. This is a historic occasion, as this span of years is believed to be the longest continuous affiliations between a minor league team and the same Major League Baseball franchise. The endurance of this franchise is a testament to the dedication of the team's fans, the support of the Bluefield community, and the strength and loyalty of the Bluefield Orioles organization. I also commend the any longtime ballpark volunteers, including Patsy Malamisura, who sadly passed away last month. These folks are truly our Most Valuable Players.

A great contributor to the Bluefield economy over the years, minor league baseball has left its strong financial imprint on southern West Virginia. But this is not where this club's influence ends. The talented young players who have gotten their start on this team, including one of the greatest players of all time—Ironman Cal Ripken—have been role models and inspirations to generations. And countless friends and families have been brought a little closer by spending an evening together underneath the bright night lights. I thank the Baltimore Orioles organization for its many contributions and commend them on this great achievement.

May minor league baseball remain alive and well in West Virginia for another 50 years.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972 AND RECOGNIZING THE NEED TO CONTINUE PURSUING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 406, introduced by our new colleague from Hawaii, MAZIE HIRONO. Following in the long tradition of her fellow Hawaiian, our beloved Congresswoman PATSY MINK, Rep. HIRONO has introduced this important resolution which celebrates the 35th anniversary and accomplishments of Title IX of the Higher Education Act.

Title IX constituted a landmark civil rights victory for equal opportunity. It has created an even playing field for women to obtain crucial scholarships to help defray the rapidly escalating costs of a college education, facilitating the steady rise in the number of female doctors, attorneys, professors and corporate executives who help keep the American economy humming. Title IX has also signaled a sea change in women's athletics, with girls' participation in high school sports skyrocketing by 800 percent and in college by 400 percent since its passage. Because of Title IX, our daughters are healthier, have higher grades, lower pregnancy rates, are less likely to use drugs and are more likely to graduate from college.

Though Title IX has been a huge success, the battle for equality is not yet won. In 2002, women made up 54 percent of college students, but they only comprised 43 percent of college athletes. Meanwhile, men received 36 percent more athletic scholarships than women. Women also receive only 20 percent of computer science and engineering-related technology bachelor's degrees and only 39 percent of all full professors at colleges and universities are women.

Girls and women have benefitted immeasurably from this critical legislation. Now is the time to praise and protect Title IX, not curtail it. I thank Congresswoman HIRONO for recognizing this important anniversary and call on my colleagues to support this resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, on Friday, June 15, 2007, and Monday, June 18, 2007, I attended events with Alabama's governor and other elected leaders to recruit significant economic development projects for my district and our state and subsequently was absent for 36 votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 491 and "yea" on rollcall 498.

HONORING SYLVESTER MYERS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a native West Virginian who found that talent and ambition together with discipline and determination was a powerful recipe for success. . . . Sylvester C. Myers, President and CEO of S.C. Myers and Associates, Inc.

Today, June 21st, Sylvester celebrates his 75th birthday. He has recently published his inspiring life story in a memoir entitled, "From Coal Fields to Oil Fields and Beyond, A Life in Pursuit of All I Could Be." The book chronicles Sylvester's humble beginnings from the coal-mining community of Keystone, West Virginia to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It is a story of his transformation from country youth to world-traveling businessman, a story that points the way for all who desire to craft their lives to match their potentials.

Sylvester founded S.C. Myers and Associates, Inc. in 1988 after retiring from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with 25 years of service. He spent the last 11 of those years serving as the "budget watchdog" of the Corps' \$20 billion military construction program in Saudi Arabia.

The company provides construction cost and project management services for government agencies, architectural firms, engineering firms and developers in the private sector. The company has offices in Washington, D.C., Bramwell, WV, Boston, MA and Baltimore, MD. The company currently has long standing projects with Baltimore-Washington International Airport and Washington-Dulles International Airport.

Sylvester was the former President of the American Association of Cost Engineers International (AACEI), National Capitol Section. He served as Director of AACEI Region II; Chairman of the AACEI Government Liaison Committee; member of the D.C. Building Industry Association's (DCBIA) Housing Committee; American Association of Blacks in Energy; the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the Bluefield (WV) State College Alumni Association; and Chairman of the Institutional Advisory Board of Bluefield (WV) State College.

In 1999, Sylvester received the Total Cost Management Excellence Award and Fellow at the AACEI Annual Meeting. He served on the Board of the Architectural Engineering Council of Washington, D.C.; Finance Committee of the Anthony Bowen YMCA in Washington, D.C. In April 1999, Sylvester received a Presidential Citation from the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), in recognition of exemplary experiences that honor Bluefield (WV) State College.

Sylvester is an alumnus of Bluefield (WV) State College and a graduate of George Washington University's School of Business and Public Management (Government Contracting and Project Management Master's Certification). Mr. Myers resides with his wife, Janice M. Myers, in Bramwell, West Virginia and they are the parents of five children. I am very proud to have Sylvester and Janice as my constituents.